

York Says U. S. Intelligence Needs Congressional Watch

By PAUL MARTIN

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WASHINGTON—Dr. Herbert F. York of Rochester says there should be a joint congressional committee to watch check on government intelligence activities.

"The people who wrote our Constitution never intended that hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayers' money should be spent in secrecy without public knowledge," he said.

"In the American system, secrecy leads to error and waste. This results in excessive statements of requirements, and over-



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doing things. If you have a small group of people working in the executive branch, and they are given an entirely free hand, we don't have the normal checks and balances needed in our system.

"You can't let the public in on our military intelligence, but you can submit it for review by another branch of the government. Specifically, the legislative branch should check on the intelligence activities of the executive branch."

YORK RESIGNED April 30 as director of military research and engineering, after serving for 10 years as the top technical official in the entire Defense Department.

As such, he was privy to the nation's most important security information, and well aware of the military intelligence operations in the armed forces and Central Intelligence Agency.

Before coming to the Pentagon in 1953, he was director of the atomic energy laboratory at Livermore, Cal. He is acquainted with the government's top-secret information in nuclear and missile fields.

"In my own office," York said, "I was the only person to see many of the top secret plans that came up. I'm just too few people to give them all a proper review. There was difficulty in determining, for instance, whether the requirement for a new jet airplane was a wish or a need."